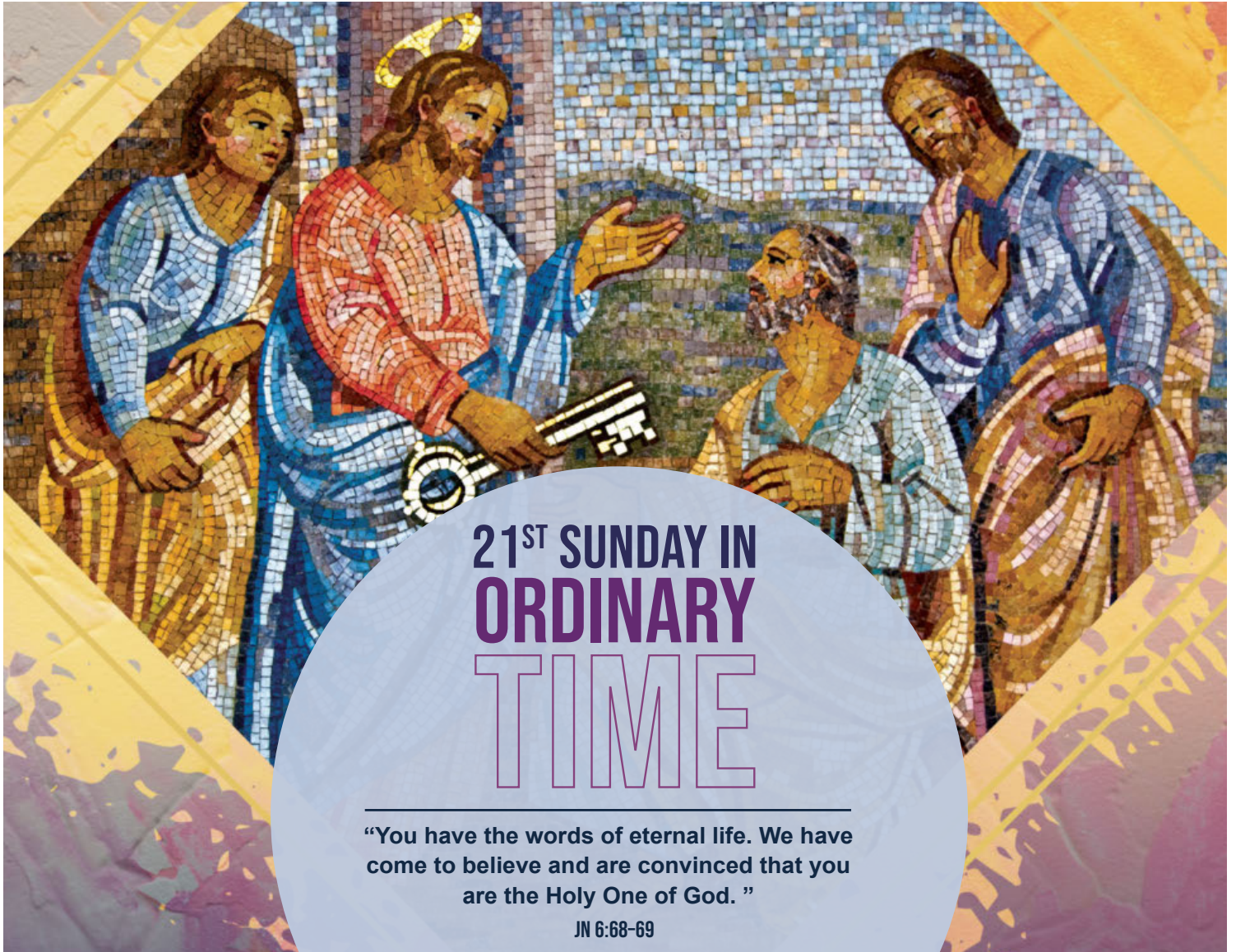


AUGUST 25, 2024

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Catholic Parish



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

JN 6:68-69

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION EXISTS TO *Proclaim* THE GOSPEL, *Worship* WHOLEHEARTEDLY, *Serve* GENEROUSLY, AND *Love* LIKE JESUS.

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday–Friday: 7:00AM, 12:00PM
Saturday: 8:30AM

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday: 4:30PM
Sunday: 8:15AM, 10:00AM, 11:45AM, 5:00PM

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday: 11:00AM, 6:30PM
Wednesday: 5:30PM

Saturday: 3:00PM
Sunday: 4:00PM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday: 8:30AM–4:00PM
Friday: 8:30AM–12:00PM

☎ (913) 681-3348

✉ AscensionChurch@KCAscension.org

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Daily*: 6:00AM–9:00PM

After Hours: 9:00PM–6:00AM

*Closed Monday & Thursday
2:00PM–3:00PM for cleaning

(Code Required)

NEW PARISHIONERS

Mr. John Toney
 Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Niemerg and Family
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve Nogel
 Mr. Jesus Medina Rivera and Family
 Ms. Cynthia Eckert and Family

BANNS OF HOLY MATRIMONY

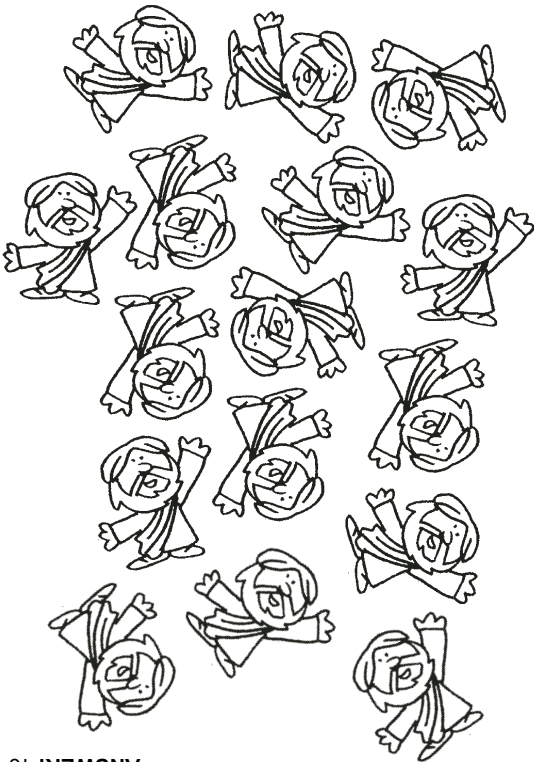
Austin Scherzer and Kathryn (Katie) Komatz
 Liam Masek and Laura Suess
 Connor J. Wilson and Kathryn C. Hess

† FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Carol Romme
Wife of Mel Romme & Mother of Tammy Ford

ASCENSION KIDS

You can count on Jesus for sure, but can you count how many are shown here?



ANSWER: 16

FATHER GARY PENNINGS
PASTOR'S CORNER



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

At this weekend's Masses, we continue our reflection on the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel, often referred to as the "Bread of Life Discourse." Over the past three Sundays, we have addressed the topics of:

- The Eucharist as Christ's enduring **presence** with us
- Mass as Christ's once-for-all saving **sacrifice** made present, where we join ourselves with it as we offer it to our Heavenly Father.
- The Eucharist as **communion**, an intimate encounter with the crucified and risen Lord.

Today we will reflect on how the Eucharist calls us to **mission**.

In Baptism we are born anew, the interior divine life that had been lost by the sin of our first parents, is restored in the sacrament. We are filled with Sanctifying Grace, the very life and love of God at work in us. What an amazing blessing from God.

Because we have free will, we can turn our backs on God, committing deadly sins, that hardens our hearts and rebels against God. Fortunately, we can be reconciled from deadly sin, through the Sacramental Confession.

When we attend Mass and present ourselves for Holy Communion we receive the body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ Jesus, crucified and risen. We are nourished and receive grace to continue our pilgrimage of faith in this life, journeying to our eternal home. This grace enables us to imitate the love that Christ shows us. This love should permeate our relationships and help us do our part to shape society, starting in our own homes.

It should strengthen us to joyfully share the encounter we have had with Christ Jesus and invite others to experience the same. In short, the Eucharist calls us to mission. When the priest or deacon dismisses us from Mass, he says, "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord," or "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." God transforms us at Mass, so that we can be sent to transform the world.

Embrace the mission!

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life,

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

- 9:30AM **Sunday Scripture Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 1:00PM **Baptisms** | Church
- 1:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 3:00PM **Ascension Praise Band & Choir** | Church
- 3:00PM **Fr. Stull in Concert** | Off-Site
- 4:00PM **AI Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 8:00PM **Men's Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

- 12:30PM **4th Monday Afternoon Bridge** | St. Luke Rm.
- 5:45PM **Finance Council** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:00PM **Faith Foundations: Catholic Social Teaching** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:30PM **AFF Info Night** | St. John Rm.
- 6:30PM **Boy Scouts Troop #218** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Knights of Columbus/Council Meeting** | Parish Hall B
- 8:30PM **Men's Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

- 6:00PM **Project Chrysalis** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:30PM **Weekly Family Rosary** | Church
- 6:30PM **Bunco is Back! (Women of Ascension)** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Revelation Bible Study (High School)** | Library

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

- 6:00PM **WYFF Kick Off** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Men's Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

- 4:30PM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 4:30PM **Shalom House** | Off-Site
- 6:00PM **8th Grade Parent Meeting** | Parish Hall B
- 6:15PM **American Heritage Girls Parent Meeting** | Parish Hall B
- 6:30PM **An Evening with Abby Johnson** | Church
- 7:00PM **Disciples Dwelling (Rosary Garden)** | Youth Center

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

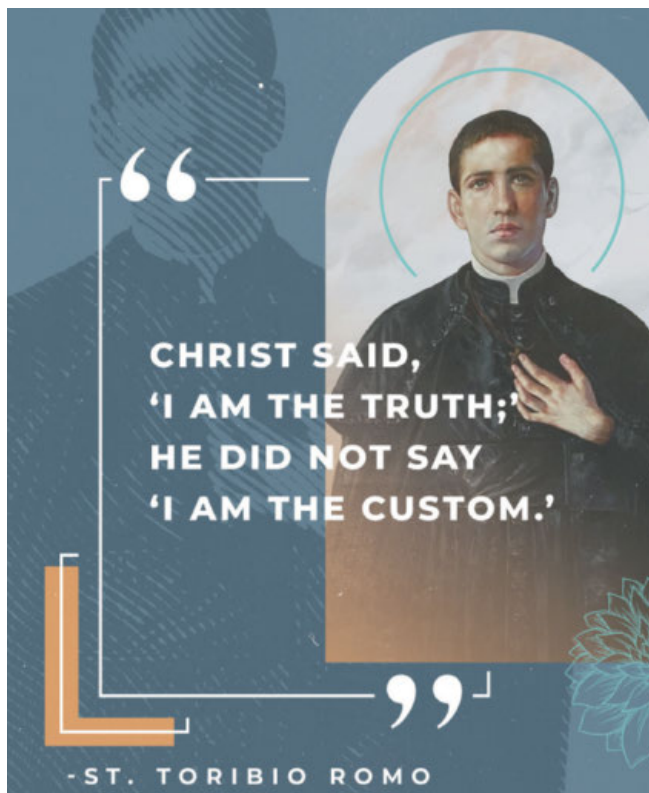
- 6:00AM **Men of Ascension** | Church

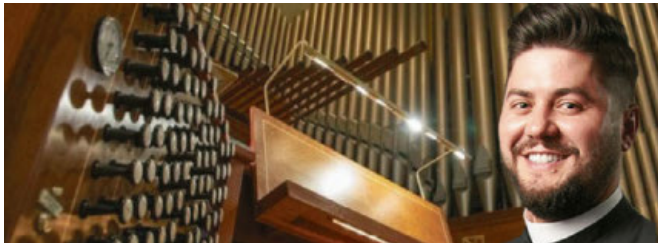
SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

- 6:00AM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00AM **Christ Renews His Parish Bible Study** | St. John Rm.
- 7:30AM **Hope Faith Breakfast for the Homeless** | Off-Site
- 4:00PM **Little Sisters of the Poor of Jesus Christ** | Gathering Area
- 6:00PM **Called to Love Again Divorce Support Ministry** | St. Luke Rm.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- 7:45AM **Little Sisters of the Poor of Jesus Christ** | Gathering Area
- 9:30AM **Sunday Scripture Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 1:00PM **Baptisms** | Church
- 1:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 2:00PM **Fr. Stull in Concert** | Off-Site
- 3:00PM **Ascension Praise Band & Choir** | Church
- 4:00PM **AI Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 4:30PM **Little Sisters of the Poor of Jesus Christ** | Gathering Area
- 8:00PM **Men's Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym





FR. STULL IN CONCERT • AUGUST 25

2:00PM, *Off-Site*

On Sunday, August 25th at 2:00PM Fr. Stull will perform as part of the twelfth-annual French Organ Festival, which features several local organists, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Downtown Kansas City, Missouri. If you're interested in organ music outside of Sunday Mass, join him—he'd love to see you there!

ADULT FAITH INFO NIGHT • AUGUST 26

6:30PM, *St. John Rm. (Lower Level)*

Adults...The school year has started for kids... what about you? Join us for a casual Info night to learn more about the various Adult Faith offerings. You should have received the Adult Faith Catalog in the mail a few weeks ago and may have been overwhelmed with the large number of classes being offered. Join us to figure out the best option for YOU to grow in your faith and build community. Light snacks, beer and wine will be served.

Register: Sign up in Realm or scan the QR code.



BUNCO IS BACK! • AUGUST 27

6:30PM, *Parish Hall*



Bunco is BACK! Join The Women of Ascension for a fun evening of Bunco and fellowship. Open to all women of the parish. There is a \$10 registration fee which covers bunco, prizes, a light meal and drinks. If you have never played, no worries, you will learn very quickly and easily. It might become your favorite game!

Register: Scan QR code

Sponsored by: The Women of Ascension



PROJECT CHRYSALIS • AUGUST 27

6:00PM, *St. Luke Room*



Project Chrysalis is a ministry for parents or grandparents who have lost a child or grandchild. Our mission is to offer support and hope through scripture and fellowship. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 27 at 6:00PM in the St. Luke room.

Contact Patty in the Parish Office at pbillinger@kcascension.org.



LADIES OF CHARITY SUMMER SOCIAL POTLUCK • AUGUST 28

5:00PM, *Off-Site*

Join the Ladies of Charity for a dinner hosted by members, join and learn what we do and who we serve! Mass at

5:00PM at the Church of the Nativity followed by dinner and BINGO. Please RSVP by August 26th. No cost to attend. Learn more at LadiesofCharityKC.org.

RSVP: Email SignupForLocEvents@gmail.com



ASCENSION TROOP 3130 INFORMATION NIGHT (AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS) • AUGUST 29

6:15PM, *Parish Hall*

American Heritage Girls is a Christ-centered character and leadership development program for girls 5 to 18 years of age. AHG is dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country. Our Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas has adopted American Heritage Girls as the preferred scouting organization for girls. Learn more about AHG and join today.

Contact: jessicasavageahg@gmail.com



An Evening with
ABBY JOHNSON

AN EVENING WITH ABBY JOHNSON • AUGUST 29

6:30PM, *Church*

Abby Johnson has always been fiercely determined to help women in need. This desire is what led Abby to a career with Planned Parenthood, our nation's largest abortion provider, and caused her to flee the organization, becoming an outspoken advocate for the pro-life movement. Come hear Abby's inspirational story!



SHALOM HOUSE • AUGUST 29

4:30PM, *Drop off in St. John Hallway*



Shalom House is the only homeless shelter for men in Kansas City, Kansas. We prepare and deliver dinner, and bake desserts for our homeless brothers at Shalom House on the last Thursday of each month. Our next date is August 29th. If you feel called to serve, please visit our signup by scanning the QR code. Detailed information is available on the signup.

Contact: *Dan Tira at (913) 991-7755*



CALLED TO LOVE AGAIN DIVORCE SUPPORT • AUGUST 31

6:00PM, *St. Luke Rm.*

Join us for a time of healing, fellowship and formation on how to navigate after divorce Saturdays at 6:00PM at Church of the Ascension on Aug 31st and Church of the Nativity on Sept 14th.

Email: katie@thecall2love.com with questions.



HOPE FAITH BREAKFAST FOR THE HOMELESS • AUGUST 31

7:30AM, *Off-Site*



Ascension's date for cooking and serving breakfast at Hope Faith Ministries is the last Saturday of the month. If interested in helping, please go to Ascension website at KCAscension.org homepage and click volunteer signups to serve or bring food. Our next breakfast is scheduled on Saturday, August 31st.



The Eucharist embodies Christ's profound gift of Himself to His beloved, inviting us into an intimate union with Him. This union extends beyond personal communion, drawing us into the collective unity of the Church, where believers share in the divine life offered through the sacrament. The Eucharist is entirely a gift for us, adding nothing to Christ, but nourishing us with His humanity and divinity. This spiritual nourishment is distributed according to our individual spiritual state, much like the manna that nourished the Israelites.

In the Eucharist, we encounter Christ's virtues—especially charity, humility, and obedience—and are called to embody these virtues in our lives. The smallest particle of the Eucharist contains the fullness of Christ, making it a source of grace and spiritual sustenance. As we gather to celebrate Mass, we experience the three-fold gifts of the Eucharist: the Real Presence of God, the sacrificial offering of Christ, and the grace that nourishes our souls. The Eucharist also fosters Christian unity, as it is both a sacrament of worship and a sacrament of unity. In it, we share in offering a sacrifice to God and receive the sanctifying gift of Christ's sacred banquet. This communal aspect of the Eucharist is a reminder that, wherever Christ is present, so too is the Church. Our participation in the Eucharist is not only an act of faith but also a response to God's deep desire for our reconciliation, which is a grace rather than a burden.

As Pope John Paul II emphasized, the paschal mystery entrusted to the Church ensures that Christ remains our Redeemer, always and everywhere. The Eucharistic sacrifice prepares us for Communion, deepening our love with each reception. The priest, in the person of Christ, offers the sacrifice of the Mass, but it is the whole community that participates in this offering, reflecting an internal oblation of our hearts to God.

In receiving Communion, we are united with Christ and the Church, becoming what we receive. This sacrament unites us in purpose, transforming us from many individuals into one Body of Christ. The Eucharist is the food of our salvation, requiring belief, repentance, and a willingness to live according to Christ's commands. Through this sacred banquet, we are continually nourished and strengthened in our faith.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS: ASCENSION FOSTER & ADOPT MINISTRY (AFAM)

by Nora and Peter Sykes



Hello fellow parishioners, we are Nora and Peter Sykes. We have been members of Ascension since 1996 when we moved to Kansas from NJ. We have three grown children. Our sons are on the East and West coasts, and our daughter and her husband are members of Ascension, along with their three sons.

Throughout our 28 years at Ascension we have been members of various ministries in our Parish. We have been the ministry leaders for the Ascension Foster and Adopt Ministry, AFAM, since 2021, when the ministry was initiated. There are three main reasons why we started AFAM. First, and most importantly, guidance from the Holy Spirit. Second, answering the call from the Archbishop to have such a ministry at each Parish in the diocese. And the Third reason would be our three grandsons. We are blessed to have the opportunity to watch our grandsons three days a week. Their other set of grandparents watch them weekly too. The boys give so much love and are surrounded by love each day of their lives. They have loving, caring parents and grandparents who get to interact with them every day. We thought about this when we heard the Archbishop's appeal to start a Foster & Adopt Ministry. Our grandsons are blessed by God to have been put into such a family situation. Many children are not as fortunate and, through no fault of their own, have to be taken from their family situation and placed into the foster care system. God is so good, he intervenes for these poor children by touching the hearts of those He calls to foster or adopt. By answering God's call, foster and adoptive parents open their hearts and homes to these children, who are the most vulnerable among us.

We feel that we were touched by the Holy Spirit to start AFAM, and to support the families who are called to walk with these children. AFAM forms a "Care Community" around the fostering or adoptive family. A Care Community is 6 to 8 people who will support one family, for at least a year, by providing a weekly meal, doing household chores, providing transportation help, and child care. Our care communities become an extended family to support the families that are fostering and / or adopting. Nationwide, only 50% of foster families make it past the first year. A family that is supported by a care community has a 90% probability of making it past that first year.

If you would like more information on becoming a member of AFAM, or if you are a family that is currently fostering or adopting and would like more information, please contact us at petersykes2019@gmail.com, or call 913-406-7608. We also get requests from the families we are supporting for contact information with other fostering families. If you are fostering and would like to reach out to other fostering families, please contact us so we can help make that connection.



A Personal Pilgrimage of Faith: Jean Ann Hausladen's Experience at the National Eucharistic Congress



Jean Ann Hausladen's journey to the National Eucharistic Congress began with uncertainty. Attending alone, she worried that her experience might be diminished without her family. Yet, from the moment she arrived at her first stop in Minneapolis, she realized she was far from alone.

"At the Delta gate, it was clear that many of us were headed to the Congress," Jean Ann recalled. Surrounded by priests, deacons, and even a bishop, she quickly felt a sense of solidarity and purpose. "Conversations began to flow, and any sense of isolation melted away."

For Jean Ann, the Congress held personal significance beyond spiritual enrichment. She attended to honor her late father, who had participated in the 1941 Eucharistic Congress in St. Paul, Minnesota. "I knew he would have encouraged me to go and be a witness," she reflected.

The Congress itself was overwhelming at first—spanning 900,000 square feet with thousands of attendees. Yet, Jean Ann found peace in the shared sense of purpose among the crowd. "Looking into the eyes of the religious sisters and the people around me, I saw love, joy, and anticipation," she said.

One of the highlights for Jean Ann was the Empower impact sessions, designed to equip attendees as Eucharistic missionaries. These sessions featured powerful speakers such as Fr. John Burns and Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers. "Each speaker brought not just information but a unique witness to how the Eucharist can transform our lives," she said.

Bishop Joseph Espallat's words particularly

struck her: "Jesus didn't come so things can be blah. He is the essence of life." Jean Ann returned home feeling "empowered" to bring these lessons to her work as a volunteer catechist. Deacon Burke-Sivers' emphasis on love over knowledge resonated deeply: "It is our love that will shine," he said. As a volunteer with our Youth Faith Formation program, Jean Ann felt renewed in her mission to help children develop a personal relationship with Jesus.

The Eucharistic procession through the streets of Indianapolis left a lasting impact on Jean Ann. Walking with thousands of fellow Catholics, she witnessed the power of connection. A young woman she had met during the Congress introduced her to two homeless men, and together they joined the procession. "Even though they couldn't always see the monstration, they saw Jesus that day," Jean Ann recalled.

At the procession's culmination in Veteran's Memorial Plaza, Jean Ann found herself before a beautiful outdoor altar, surrounded by thousands of faithful. "That moment alone made the journey worth it," she said, recalling the power of witnessing Jesus' true presence during benediction.

For Jean Ann, the Congress was not just about the large gatherings; it was also about moments of personal reflection. Perpetual Adoration at St. John the Evangelist Church provided a quiet space amidst the busyness of the Congress. "It was a little taste of 'heavenly peace,'" she said.

As Jean Ann reflects on her pilgrimage, she is grateful for the experience and feels renewed in her faith. "We are called to stand out as followers of Jesus," she said. "By our Baptism, we are set apart."

MASS INTENTIONS †

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

7:00AM **+Kenneth Howard McKay**

12:00PM **+Bob Walters**
by Theresa Walters

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

7:00AM **+Jeanne Waite**
by Handley Family

+Fansie M. Connelly
by Jim & Jessica Ward

+Rose Sefnes
by Connie & Deacon John Stanley

+Norma Lim
by Connie & Deacon John Stanley

+Robert Theurer
by Connie & Deacon John Stanley

+Mary Panther
by Connie & Deacon John Stanley

8:00AM **+Chris Poggie**
by Molly and Keith Johnson

12:00PM **+Philip Rauen**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

7:00AM **+Butch Reyes**
by Joe Walrod

12:00PM **+Gary Denning**
by Carol Denning

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

7:00AM **+Dr. James Mavec**
by Lois Herr

12:00PM **+Steve Paugh**
by Kramer Family

+Mike Steigleder
by Kramer Family

**Special Intentions for
Besong Family**
by Esther Besong

+Bob Starr
by Dan & Vicki Snowden

+Frank Conley
by Fred & Kathy Zielinski

+Susie Santa Maria
by Jerry & Sally Rowley

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

7:00AM **+Peggy Chirban-Mitchell**
by David & Elizabeth McMIndes

12:00PM **Eloise Bukaty**
by Brian and Diana Hornung

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

8:30AM —

4:30PM **+June Jarrard**
by Reed Family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

8:30AM **+Ken Rethman**
by Rethman Family

10:00AM **Ascension Parishioners**

11:45AM **+Anna Murawski**
by Robert & Sally Ann James

5:00PM **+Annette Shobe**
by Kay Lyons

PRAYERS

FOR OUR SICK

Susan Arp, Bob Barr, Charlotte Berndt, Kathy Bins, Lynn Butzen, Jan Cheray, Hudson Coffman, Jim Conrad, James Daley, Dan Deasy, Karen Elliott, Susie Evans, Ron Fortino, Megan Freking, Scott Graham, Mary Greve, Mary Pat Harpenau, Marsha Hatfield-Baker, Pete Ingles, Joan B. Johnson, Wade Johnson, Larry Judy, Gabby Kelly, Jerry and Pat Klimas, Matthew Kopff, Jane Godar Kreiter, Ellen & Jerry Lavin, Louis Lindstrom, Pam Manning, Dale Marti, Sue Marti, Karen Mathes, Kelly Mayer, Rebecca Meis, Sharon Milde, Jenny Melookaran, Sarah Millsap, Deloris Moore, Mike Mullen, Kay Myrick, Fred Nelson, Keith Newman, Carmen & John Nodar, Bob Novellano, Joan and Rick Ostmeyer, Cathy Oxley, James Palmer, Aimee Parsons, Lilibeth Pinon, Carmen Porterfield, Evelyn Rauen, Becky Reed, Amy Reinhardt, Katy Rempel, Heather Rollheiser, Ed Roitz, Mark Rulo, Marian Scaletta, Barbara Schulte, Marilyn Sechi, Bob Sherman, Janet Sherman, Laird Simons, Carol Stump, Paul Surlles, Fr. Tom Tank, Dan Tira, Collin Warrender, Bridget A. Weeks, Griffin Weyforth, Marilyn Wheeler, George Winkler, John Witt, Emy Yabut, Fred Zielinski

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Karen Armstrong, Bryan Atkins, Linton Bayless, Michael Beam, Ken Becker, Marissa Bemis, Annie Boehmcke, Amanda Brower, Michele Buche, Audrey Cooper, Judy DeJesus, Richard Dobkin, Steve Dougherty, Janelle Downs, Katelyn Dulac, Adeleaide Fix, LaVonne Friedrichsen, Paul Friedrichsen, Bob Gleason, Phil Godar, Angela Tira Gravitt, Monica Greenwood, Karla Harris, Anne Hauser, Colleen Heeter, Dianna Heintz, Diane Hutchinson, Jessica Imler, Art Jeannet, Chad Jones, Chris Johnson, Sean Kavanaugh, Luella Lappe, Dennis Larkin, Ellen Loschke, Dick Maguire, Blake Martin, Gregg McNeely, Brad Morton, Cindy Morton, Paul Newman, Tina Noelke-Orf, Mike Ojile, Roe Park, Eryn Patton, Roslyn Perry, David Poskin, Paula Ramsey, Mark Reda, Nicole Rizzo, Dave Roth, Lori Ruskamp, Olivia Sims, Tom Sims, Lawson Sosebee, Karen Steffen, Lynn Stephan, Stephen Sullivan, Art Sumpstine, Stephanie Thomas, John Tucker, Benjamin Waller

ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

Lt. Colonel Diane Caranta, M.D.; Captain Tyler H. Cordry, US Army; Captain Stephen Cuff, US Army; Ensign Edward Dodson US Navy; Corporal Aidan Egan, USMC; Spc. J. Ben Froome II, US Army; Corporal Margaret Gould, USMC; Senior Airman Courtney Hinemeyer, USAF; Larry Homan, US Army; Lance Corporal Brooke L. Jalbert; A.B. Leah Leis, USAF; Captain Jacob Morin, USAF; Alexander Noguerras US Army; Captain Dan Prior, US Army; 2nd Lt Tom Stivers, US Army;



FAMILY ROSARY • TUESDAYS

6:30PM, Church

Join the Family Rosary every Tuesday at 6:30PM in the church. Together we will pray for our families, our nation and our world! Blessed Mother, pray for us!



PRAYER INTENTIONS

If you are carrying a heavy cross or going through a difficult season, please do not shoulder the burden alone. Our Parish Prayer Warriors are ready to intercede on your behalf. If you are in need of prayer, call our prayer partner intention hotline. **Voicemail Number: 1-888-684-6555**



HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Are you homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist?

Contact: Patty at (913) 681-3348



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Don't know what the Adoration Chapel is all about? Come and visit Jesus any time.



Hours that NEED immediate weekly partners: ** = HIGH NEED

Tuesday: 1:00AM (subs); 2:00PM

Thursday: 4:00AM**

Saturday: 7:00AM, 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 7:00PM**, 10:00PM
(Plus other subs needed Saturdays at various times)

Register: Scan the QR code or contact Debbie Engel at 913-485-8918 or deborasuzanne@gmail.com.

FALL FESTIVAL
SAT. OCTOBER 5TH
5:30-9:00 PM

GAMES INFLATABLES LIVE MUSIC FOOD

REGISTER HERE TO ATTEND:

9510 W 127TH STREET
 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66213

Sign up HERE to Volunteer your TIME at the Fall Festival. MANY helpers needed!

Sign up HERE to DONATE ITEMS for the Cake Walk and Soda Pop Ring Toss games!

SEPTEMBER



Tax Reducing Strategies

for Pre-and Post-Retirees



Wednesday, September 4th

5:30PM Social and Wine Tasting
6:00PM Presentation



TAX REDUCING STRATEGIES FOR PRE-AND POST-RETIRES • SEPTEMBER 4

5:30PM, St. Mark Rm.

Our workshop speaker, Bill Eckert, is a well-known financial educator, speaker, and advisor in Kansas City with an in-depth understanding of the philanthropic planning process and helping individuals to be good stewards of their financial gifts. Do you know that: You can sell highly appreciated assets and minimize Capital Gains taxes? You may be able to receive significant Tax Deductions today and possibly for another five years? You can protect your IRA from Double Taxation? You may be able to increase your income significantly? Learn answers to these questions and more by joining us!

Register: Scan the QR code.

ST. MARY'S FOOD KITCHEN • SEPTEMBER 4

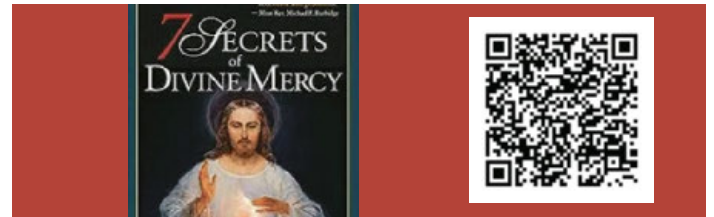
5:30PM, St. Mark Rm.



Ascension has been a contributor to St. Mary's Food Kitchen for many years. Ascension's day is the 1st Wednesday of the month to provide supplies and prepare a taco salad luncheon. We leave Ascension at 9:30 to prep the meal and get things set up. We serve the lunch at 11 until 12:30 then return to Ascension. It is a real hands-on experience of serving people in need. Our needs are for parishioners to donate foods to make the taco salads, some to cook the hamburger so we can just warm it up at St Mary's, and for servers the day of. Added benefit: WE HAVE A BLAST! Please visit

KCAscension.org/GetInvolved/ServiceOpportunities to see full details and explore volunteer opportunities!

Questions or Suggestions: Jean Hinman 913-908-9811 or Dorothy and Michael Eagan 913-526-8314.



7 SECRETS TO DIVINE MERCY • SEPTEMBER 5-OCTOBER 31

10:00AM, St. Luke Rm.

A class to promote the many blessings of God's Divine Mercy. In this study, we will use Vinny Flynn's book, 7 Secrets of Divine Mercy as a valuable guide to help us understand the wonderful gift of the Divine Mercy message given to St. Faustina for the entire world. He shows how this message fills our hearts with hope and the spark to help change the world to a civilization of love. The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is Divine Mercy. It is the fundamental law that dwells within the heart of every person and the bridge that connects God to humanity. This book will help change your prayer life, transform your relationship with the Holy Trinity and also show us how to radiate God's merciful love to save souls. No class on: 10/17 & 10/24. Duration: 7 weeks. No cost. Please register so that we have adequate space. Prior to class, please purchase 7 Secrets of Divine Mercy by Vinny Flynn at Trinity House Catholic Books and Gifts or on Amazon.

Facilitator: Ann Smith

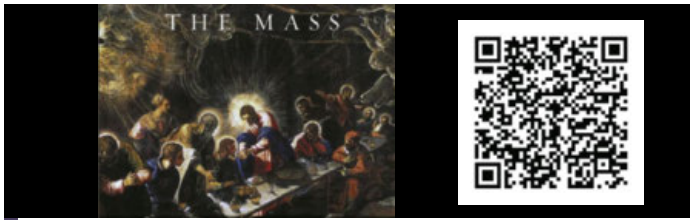
Register: Scan QR code



CHECK US OUT! JOIN THE CUB SCOUTS (PACK 3218) • SEPTEMBER 5

6:30PM, Parish Hall

Come see what Cub Scouts Pack 3218 is all about! Join our first Pack Meeting on Thursday, Sept. 5th at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall. Also, bring your son for our first Den Meeting and learn about Cub Scouts on Sept. 19th at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall.



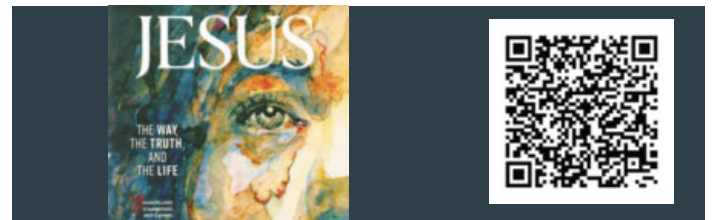
THE MASS RETREAT • SEPTEMBER 7

9:15AM, St. Mark Rm.

Many parishioners enjoyed diving deeper into each part of the Mass last year with Bishop Barron in his video series. Now, for your convenience, we are offering this 7-week course in one day! Come spend a Saturday watching and discussing Bishop Barron’s videos on “The Mass”. You might plan to stay after the retreat and attend the 4:30PM Mass to see if you notice a difference in your understanding and participation of the Mass after enjoying this video series. Cost: \$25 (Includes continental breakfast, lunch, and materials)

Facilitators: Kim Sutton / Liz Willman

Register: Scan QR code



JESUS: THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE • SEPTEMBER 10–NOVEMBER 12 (TUESDAYS)

10:00AM, St. Mark Rm.

A ten-week small group study program presented by Marcellino D’Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri. Filmed on-location in the Holy Land and anchored in the life of Christ as presented in the Gospels, this study explores the entirety of Jesus’ life—who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, what he did for our salvation, and what all of this means for us as Catholics today. (Please register so that we have adequate space.) No cost.

Facilitator: Tamara James

Register: Scan QR code



FIRST CORINTHIANS SUNDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY • SEPTEMBER 8–NOVEMBER 10

9:30AM, St. Mark Rm.

First Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community – St. Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians addresses many of the same topics in the news headlines today: scandals, promiscuity, debates and controversies, and issues related to prosperity versus poverty. Clearly, the struggles faced by the early Christians are in many ways similar to our own. First Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community explores the key elements of the gospel message that Paul introduced to a new and growing Church. Presenter Tim Gray examines Paul’s advice for living an authentic Christian life in a pagan culture, as well as his teachings about the nature of grace, the Church as the body of Christ, and the most powerful gift of all—the Eucharist. No cost. (Please register so that we have adequate materials and space. NO BOOK PURCHASE IS NECESSARY.

Facilitators: Joyce Grashoff

Register: Scan QR code



REBUILDING AFTER DIVORCE • SEPTEMBER 10–OCTOBER 29 (TUESDAYS)

7:00PM, St. John Rm.

You CAN rebuild after divorce. It just takes a blueprint! Whether you’ve recently divorced or it’s been a few years, you can rebuild a life rich in faith, hope, and lots of love. But first you’ll need blueprints, clear directions to make your house a home again. Where should you start? By laying a solid foundation that will hold up under the drizzle of daily life and any raging storms that may come. And the cornerstone of that foundation is Christ. 8 week program. No cost.

Facilitators: Pam Novosel / Julie Cruz

Register: Scan QR code



**VIRTUES: THE PATH TO HAPPINESS •
SEPTEMBER 10-NOVEMBER 5
(EVERY OTHER TUESDAY)**

6:30PM, *St. Mark Rm.*

Fr. Colm leads this study of the four cardinal virtues: prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance and why practicing a life of virtue leads to happiness and fulfillment. Duration is 5 weeks, every-other-week. No cost.

Facilitator: Fr. Colm

Register: Scan QR code

GUADALUPE HOUSE • SEPTEMBER 10

Drop off by 4:30PM, *Parish Hall*



Our Lady of Guadalupe House is an organization run by the Sisters of the Fraternity Missionaries of the Poor of Jesus Christ. The Sisters reach out to the poor and homeless in Kansas City, Kansas, and Ascension provides them with supplies needed for their ministry. If you are interested in supporting the Sisters with their cause by donating supplies, please visit the Church of the Ascension homepage at KCAscension.org, and click on Volunteer Signups/ Guadalupe House.

**FORGIVENESS 101: YOU WANT ME
TO DO WHAT? • SEPTEMBER 11**

7:00PM, *St. Mark Rm.*



Are you struggling with forgiving someone who has really hurt you? You are not alone! Forgiveness isn't about forgetting or excusing the abuse. Come join in on an interesting evening of stories, videos, scripture, Q&A time, and a short prayer service with Chuck Jansen who is the founder of FIKC (Forgiveness Institute, KC Inc, www.yeabut.org), founded 11 years ago. Forgiveness Institute KC, Inc. is the number one source of Kansas City forgiveness. There really are predictable "common denominators" to the challenging process to forgive. To date, no one has ever fallen asleep at this workshop. No cost, but please register so that we have adequate space.

Facilitator: Chuck Jansen

Register: Scan QR code

**ARE YOU A MOM
OF A YOUNG CHILD?**

JOIN US FOR DRINKS AND DESSERT AS WE
TOAST TO THE START OF A NEW YEAR AND
NEW SEASON OF MOYC!

TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10
7:30 PM

PARISH HALL



WHETHER YOU ARE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY OR HAVE BEEN A
PART OF MOYC AT ASCENSION FOR A WHILE, ALL MOTHERS OF
YOUNG CHILDREN ARE WELCOME.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!



**MOTHERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN
(MOYC) KICKOFF • SEPTEMBER 10**

7:30PM, *Parish Hall*

Join us for drinks and dessert on Tuesday, September 10th at 7:30PM in the Parish Hall as we toast to the start of a new year and new season of MOYC. MOYC's mission is to build a community of faith and friendship amongst moms with babies up to children in second grade.

RSVP: Scan the QR code.

**THE FAMILY & THE NEW TOTALITARIANISM •
SEPTEMBER 12-OCTOBER 17 (THURSDAYS)**

5:30PM, *St. Mark Rm.*



"The new totalitarian's idealism, his humanitarianism, his public image, may communicate to us many good things... We soon find ourselves succumbing to a magnetic attraction, and voting for leaders whose agendas mix admirable elements, and fatal flaws." Michael D. O'Brien reveals in this book how we got here, and what we can do to take back our control in order to live once more in freedom and

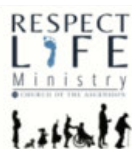
democracy in our families and society. No cost.

Facilitator: Joyce Grashoff

Register: Scan QR code

**RESPECT LIFE
INFORMATION NIGHT •
SEPTEMBER 12**

6:30PM, St. John's Rm.



Learn about what is new and upcoming in the Respect Life Ministry at both Ascension and within the Archdiocese. Featuring: Deb Niesen, Lead Consultant for Pro-Life Ministries, as speaker. All are welcome: current ministry members and anyone wanting to learn more or interested in getting involved! Refreshments and light food will be served.

Questions: CathyFMadrid@gmail.com

Register: RSVP on Realm

DRIVE-UP FOOD COLLECTION • SEPTEMBER 14

10:00AM, Parking Lot

Your help is needed! Catholic Charities' food pantry supplies are still at an all-time low. If you are able, please help us care for our neighbors in need. The Ascension Drive-Up Food Collection is on Saturday, September 14th from 10:00AM–2:00PM. Please look for the Catholic Charities truck in our parking lot. Can't be here on September 14th? No worries! You can always drop off donations in the food bin located in the St. John hallway. Prefer not to donate food? The Knights will gratefully accept all cash and check donations before and after all Sunday masses. Many thanks for your generosity! Your kindness changes lives.

Contact: David Whitaker at (913) 626-2676 or Johnette Martin (913) 481-8663

Sponsored by: The Knights of Columbus and Ministry of Care

**OPERATION WARM TOES •
SEPTEMBER 14-15**

All Day, Narthex



Ministry of Care and Social Justice is collecting warm socks to distribute to our homeless brothers and sisters throughout the Kansas City metro area. We are collecting these items for further distribution by a partner ministry. *Suggested Items: new long thermal socks and new long white athletic socks.* We are grateful for your donations!

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MINISTRY •
SEPTEMBER 14**

After 8:30AM Mass, St. Luke Rm.



The Bereavement Support Ministry at Church of the Ascension meets the second Saturday of every month in the St. Luke Room, unless otherwise noted on the parish calendar, after 8:30AM Mass for support and education. Our next meeting is on Saturday September 14.

BLOOD DRIVE • SEPTEMBER 16

1:00PM, Parish Hall



Join us September 16th from 1:00PM–6:00PM in the Parish Hall and donate blood. The gift of blood is the gift of life. Be a hero, donate blood, and give someone a chance to live.

Sign Up: Scan the QR code

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS • SEPTEMBER 16

6:00PM, Church

Join us in praying a Holy Hour for Vocations, Exposition and Benediction. All are welcome!

**MEET, MINGLE & PRAY •
SEPTEMBER 17**

6:30PM, St. Luke Rm.



All women of our parish are invited to attend this evening of fellowship, friendship, and prayer. This is a great way to get to know other women in our parish to share your faith through prayer. Light refreshments will be served.

Register: Scan QR code



**FAITH FOUNDATION: PRAYER •
SEPTEMBER 17**

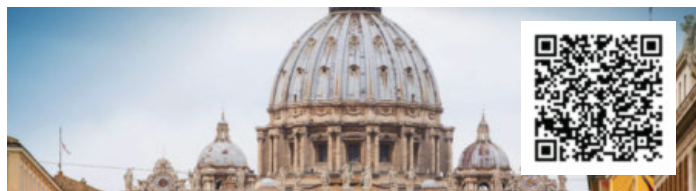
6:30PM, St. Mark Rm.

Did you know there isn't one right way to pray privately? Our individual prayer lives should correspond to what is best for our temperament, state in life, and where we're at on our spiritual journey. In this class on prayer, we'll explore the purpose of prayer, the types of prayer, and how to figure

UPCOMING EVENTS

out what mode of prayer is best suited to each of us. Join Fr. Stull on Tuesday, September 17 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. for this talk on prayer to jump-start your prayer life, to deepen your resolve, and maybe learn a few new tips / tricks to enhance your daily prayer! No cost.

Register: Scan QR code



EPIC: CHURCH HISTORY • SEPTEMBER 19-MARCH 5 (WEDNESDAYS)

10:00AM or 6:00PM *St. Mark Rm.*

This is our story, our family. As Catholics, we are the inheritors of holy men and women who over two thousand years built a great civilization and spread the gospel throughout the world. The history of the Church is not just the recitation of popes and saints; it is a story of adventure, intrigue, rebellion, reform, and devotion. In this study you will learn about the important people, places, and events in two thousand years of Church history, presented in twelve easy-to-remember color-coded time periods. You will discover the true stories behind the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, and the Protestant Reformation. You will also learn about the massive persecution of Christians in the twentieth century. Throughout, you will be gaining an understanding of the workings of the Holy Spirit in our Church. The better we know our history, the better prepared we will be to face the future. No cost. No classes on 11/27, 12/18 & 25, and 1/1

Facilitator: Kim Sutton

Register: Scan QR code

TIME FLIES: A HAPPY HOUR FOR MARRIED COUPLES • SEPTEMBER 18

6:30PM, *Off-Site*



Join us for an evening of love, laughter, and lasting connections at "Time Flies: A Happy Hour for Married Couples." Hosted at The Bullpen, this event is designed to strengthen the bonds of married couples through faith, fellowship, and the power of healthy communication.

Register: Scan the QR code

DEACON INFORMATION SESSIONS • SEPTEMBER 18, 26, 30 AND OCT. 19

7:00PM, *Off-Site*



This fall the Deacon Office will be hosting information sessions for men who are interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate ("inquirers"). The sessions are identical, so inquirers only need to attend whichever session works best with their schedule (no RSVP required). All of the sessions will take place at the Savior Pastoral Center. In addition, inquirers are strongly encouraged to complete our online inquiry form, please scan the QR code.

*Questions: Deacon Curtis Keddy, Director of Formation,
at ckeddy@archkck.org or 913-647-0326*

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP • SEPTEMBER 18

6:30PM, *St. Luke Rm.*

If you are caring for a loved one in need, we invite you to join us the 3rd Wednesday of each month for an evening of community connection with others walking the same beautiful and often challenging path. Bring your questions, stories, concerns, and leave with coping skills and spiritual support for the road ahead.

Sponsored by Catholic Community Health.

RSVP: Michelle Buzzard at (913) 484-2222

EMBRACE THE BREW III • SEPTEMBER 21

6:00PM, *Off-Site*



Join us on Saturday, September 21st at the The Venue for good food, drinks and music. Featuring Toby Cook as the Emcee and music by the Mikey Needleman Band.

For more information/Buy tickets: Scan the QR code

CHILDREN'S USED BOOK DRIVE • SEPTEMBER 28-29

All Day, *Narthex*

Drop off your used children's book in the Narthex between September 28th-29th. Please, no early drop offs! Benefitting the Johnson County Christmas Bureau.

Sponsored by: Ministry of Care



ASCENSION KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



KNIGHTS SOCIAL

Knights, Spouses and Significant Others are invited to the Bourgmont Winery (20299 Quivira Rd, Bucyrus, KS 66013) for our August Social on August 29th from 5:00pm–8:00pm. Arrive when you can. There will be live music by Kari King with Bourgmont wine and food from KC Deeya's Food Truck available for purchase. Watch your email for more details and sign-up information.

KNIGHTS FOOTBALL RAFFLE

Knights of Columbus football season raffle tickets are available to order now through the end of August.

- One raffle ticket will be drawn on 8/31 for two Chiefs season tickets and a season parking pass from all raffle tickets purchased and turned in no later than August 26th.
- Weekly cash drawings start 9/7 with 13 cash prizes ranging from \$500 to \$50 each week. The last cash drawing is 12/21 for one prize of \$1,000.
- Five tickets for \$100 or one for \$25. No limit on how many you can purchase.

Ask any Ascension Knight about details or pick up an order form in the gathering area. Call 913-663-1971 if you have questions.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH AND KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to David and Elizabeth McMIndes our Family of the Month and Ken Rock our Knight of the Month for July.

JOIN THE KNIGHTS

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men's organization open to all Catholic men ages 18 and over. Interested in joining the Knights? Contact Jordan Steel at raiload@aol.com.

KNIGHTS CHOIR

Contact Patrick Kershaw at captpat@wwdb.org if you are interested in joining.

PRAYERS

Join us in prayer for our seminarians from Ascension – Alex Rickert, Michael Santamarina, Jack Oxley and ALL others including Trey Niesen and Matthias Saiiki. Also, please pray for Seminarian Ronald Aries from the Philippines whom the Ascension Council has sponsored through Unbound.org.

Holy Hours dedicated to Vocations occur every Friday at 1 pm and Saturday at 11 am in the Adoration Chapel.

ALTAR SERVERS

Thank an Altar Server and their families whenever you can for their commitment and devotion!

JOIN US FOR MASS AND MEETINGS

- Officers' Meeting: Sunday, September 8, 6:15PM, *Annex (Knights Room)*
- Council Meeting: Monday, September 23, 7:00PM, *Parish Hall B*, Preceded by the Knights Vocation Holy Hour and Rosary at 6:00PM.
- Knights' Mass Friday mornings at 7:00AM with breakfast following at Hy-Vee
- 2024 Dues can be paid at AscensionKofC.com

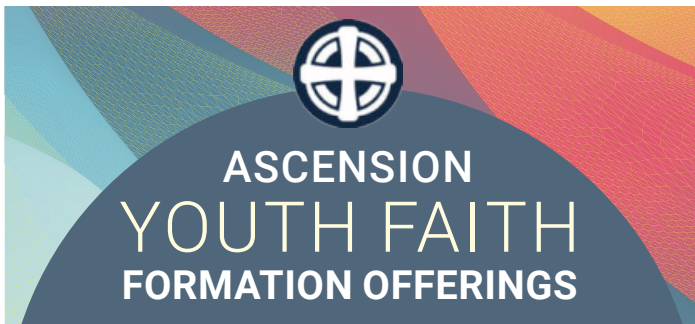
UPCOMING EVENTS

- **AUGUST 28:** Back to School BBQ for Youth Faith Formation Volunteer Opportunity
- **AUGUST 29:** Knights Social at Bourgmont Winery
- **SEPTEMBER 11:** Wyandotte and Olathe Pregnancy Centers Advice and Aid Life and Hope Banquet
- **SEPTEMBER 14-15:** Catholic Charities Food Drive Volunteer Opportunity
- **SEPTEMBER 22:** Knights Social Chiefs Watch Party
- **SEPTEMBER 28:** Villa St. Francis Dinner
- **OCTOBER 5:** Ascension Parish Fall Festival Volunteer Opportunity
- **OCTOBER 5:** Parish Soccer Challenge
- **OCTOBER 7:** KofC Golf Tournament, *Falcon Ridge*

FOURTH DEGREE ASSEMBLY ACTIVITIES

- Assembly Installation Ceremony, Fall Social and Dinner, 9/7, Ceremony at Ascension after 4:30 pm Mass and Social/Dinner immediately following at Talk of the Town, 135th and Nall. Dinner will be \$25/person for prime rib dinner. Watch your email for more details.

Fourth Degree Knights interested in joining the Fourth Degree Honor Guard please contact: Dave Jones at 913-825-9828 or Pat Healy at 913-244-6544.



Monthly Program

Family Formation (K, 1st, 3rd-6th): Parents and kids attend on the first Tuesday of the month from 6:00PM to 7:30PM (kids in classrooms and parents in the parish hall) Parents are given a packet of lessons to cover at home the following 3 weeks.

Weekly Program K-6 Grade

Our Weekly YFF gathers from 6:00PM to 7:30PM each week to not only learn more about the faith but to be formed in the abundant life of Christ and His Church.

Year I Confirmation

This is the first year of our two year Confirmation Program. All young people preparing for that Sacrament of Confirmation need to be in Year I before sign-up for Year II Confirmation (If you attend ACS you naturally do this by being in 7th grade).

Year II/Confirmation Small Group Leaders

We need Small Group Leaders for all Confirmation Candidates. Would you be willing to lead a small group for about 6 to 8 Candidates in your home? Please call the YFF Office/Sacramental Preparation Office for more information: (913) 681-7683.

Volunteers Needed

Our Youth Faith Formation Program (K-7th grade) seeks to form young people in the ways of faith. We need catechists and aides to help with our weekly program that meets from 6pm to 7:30pm every Wednesday September - mid-May. We have been blessed with catechist who come back each year even those who no longer have kids in the program. But we always are in need of more - would you prayerfully consider being a part of our wonderful team who hands on the faith and witness the wonder of the faith?

Fall Sessions (Now Enrolling)

Registration for all Youth Faith Formation programs in the fall has begun. Go to the Parish website, scroll down to "Trending at Ascension" and click on "Fall Registration".

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD VOLUNTEERS



Children's Liturgy of the Word Volunteers are needed for the 8:15AM and 10:00AM Masses. We need two adults per Mass. Please considering volunteering for this wonderful ministry.

Contact: William O'Leary (913) 681-7683



YOUTH FAITH FORMATION • HELP NEEDED

6:00PM, Ascension

Sharing our Faith is the call of every Baptized Catholic. One way to do just that is by being an aide to our Youth Faith Formation Program. We are in need of aides for 1st, 3rd and 4th grade Youth Faith Formation on Wednesday evenings from 6:00PM-7:30PM. Would you prayerfully consider being one? It is a rewarding ministry.

Contact: William O'Leary at (913) 681-7683

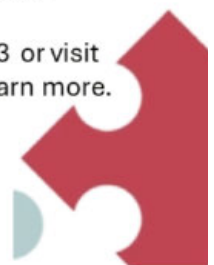
Special Needs Youth Faith Formation

Currently inviting families with a special needs, disabled or learning challenged child age K-8th grade to sign up for the 2024-2025 Youth Faith Formation program

Our specially trained leaders will provide faith formation and sacramental preparation in small group and individual sacramental preparation sessions that help your child growth in their faith through an adapted approach tailored for their needs.

Call the YFF office at 913-681-7683 or visit <https://kcascension.org/fwm/> to learn more.

Classes start soon!





RCIA IS STARTING NOW!

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic? Our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is starting now. We had our last Information Night so if you are interested, contact Liz Willman, RCIA Director at 681-3348 ext. 139 or email at: lwillman@kcascension.org right away to register.

PARISH LEADERSHIP POSITION

Mr. Chris Sims, who has served as our parish Pastoral Associate for Administration (aka, Parish Business Manager) who came to Ascension in March, has unfortunately already departed, taking a job offer from one of his prior employers. We are sad to see Chris leave, but we wish him and his family well.

We are looking for a professional who is willing to work full-time for the Church. The role entails the following responsibilities:

- Key collaborator with pastor and a member of Parish Leadership Team
- Skillsets that enable oversight of the parish's administrative, financial and human resource functions
- The ability to oversee facilities management, planning and operational infrastructure elements (IT, equipment leases, etc.)
- Directly Supervises 4 other staff members
- Collaborates with all parish organizations and advisory bodies as necessary

Interested candidates should contact Susan at snigrin@kcascension.org with cover letter and resume.



COVERED IN PRAYER BLANKETS

Do you have a family member or friend who needs prayer and support? We have a group of ladies who lovingly make beautiful lap blankets which are blessed by our priests. Ministry of Care sends these blankets to people who are in need of encouragement and comfort during illness or a tragedy to remind them that they are 'covered in prayer' for healing and strength. If you have someone in your life who could use a reminder that they are loved, please contact Patty in the office at pbillinger@kcascension.org.

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER:

THE DEVELOPING BABY— MOMMY FELT ME KICK TODAY

Your spiritually adopted baby now weighs over one pound and her mother can feel her movement. Before this time she was too small for her mother to feel her. Although she swam with ease in her watery world, she needed to be big and strong enough to kick hard against the outside wall and dent it—the inside wall of the uterus has little feeling. We are mid-way through the pregnancy now. Your prayers have helped your baby's mother continue with her pregnancy and seek the help she needs. The baby's development calls us to reflect on Isaiah 44:24—"Thus says the Lord, your redeemer, who formed you from the womb: I am the Lord, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, I spread out the earth by myself." (Source: Archdiocese of Baltimore).



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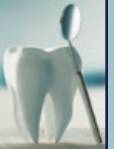


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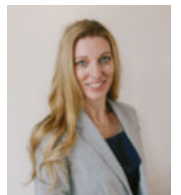
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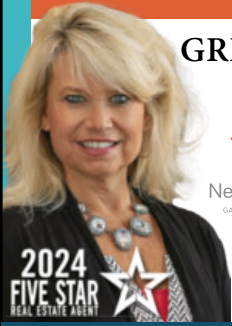
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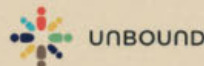
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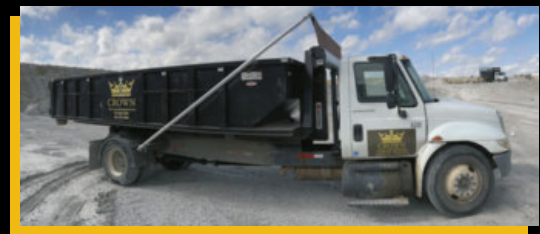
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